APPENDIX E
Trail Issues Survey

Dear Respondent,

The Department of Natural Resources' Division of Outdoor Recreation is conducting a Trails Issues Survey for inclusion in the 2005-2009 SCORP. Because of your involvement in planning trail management and/or administration, the study committee has selected you as a potential respondent. The results of this study will help determine the issues facing Indiana in terms of trail usage, service area demographics, specific trail attitudes, design/planning and development, legislative concerns, funding sources for development/maintenance, trail safety and communication.

Please take a few minutes to complete the survey and return it to the vendors name by date to be set by committee in the self-addressed stamped envelope. Some questions request more than one response, **but please only give one response if stated in the question**. Note the special instructions for question # 5 if a "Not Applicable" response is given. We also encourage everyone to give additional comments related to trail issues.

Thank you for your valuable input,

Trails Issues Study Committee

1. In what county/counties does your organization operate?
   _____ or   ☐ Statewide

2. What is the population of your service area?
   ☐ 4,999 or less   ☐ 5,000 to 9,999   ☐ 10,000 to 49,999
   ☐ 50,000 to 149,000   ☐150,000 or more   ☐ Not applicable

3. What best describes your organization?
   ☐ City   ☐ County   ☐ Township   ☐ State   ☐ Not-for-profit
   ☐ Federal   ☐ Other_____

4. What approximate percentage (%) of your total annual operating budget is used for trails?
   ☐ 0 to 5   ☐ 6 to 10   ☐ 11 to 15   ☐ 16 to 20   ☐ 21 to 25
   ☐ 26 to 30   ☐ 31 to 35   ☐ 36 to 40   ☐ 41 to 45   ☐ 46 to 50
   ☐ Greater than 50   ☐ Not applicable

5. Please indicate how many miles are in your trail system? (excluding sidewalks)
   _____miles   ☐ Not applicable **(then please GO TO QUESTION #7)**

6. a. What is the type of use that your system provides? (Check all that apply)
   ☐ Motorcycling   ☐ Mountain biking   ☐ Hiking (natural surface)
   ☐ Cross-country skiing   ☐ Canoeing/kayaking   ☐ Off-road motorized (vehicle riding)
   ☐ Skating   ☐ Horseback riding   ☐ Bicycling (paved hardened surface)
   ☐ Snowmobiling   ☐ Walking/running   ☐ Other_____

   b. What is your perceived rate of trail use?   ☐ Low   ☐ Medium   ☐ High   ☐ Do not know

   c. What is the estimated rate of use per month? (a numerical value) _____

7. Indicate the importance your organization places upon providing the following trail use
   opportunities: (Check all that apply)

Type of trail operation	Will Not Consider	Not Important	Somewhat Important	Very Important	No Opinion
Cross-country skiing	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Bicycling (paved hardened surface)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Mountain biking	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Motorcycling	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Off-road motorized (vehicle riding)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Canoeing/kayaking	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Horseback riding	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Hiking	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Walking/running	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Skating	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Snowmobiling	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

8. What type of trail surface do you prefer to walk on?   (Check the SINGLE response that MOST applies)
   ☐ Native soil   ☐ Wood chips   ☐ Asphalt
   ☐ Sand   ☐ Crushed Stone   ☐ Concrete

	Not Important	Somewhat Important	Very Important	Do Not Consider	Not Applicable
9. What is your organization's view towards land acquisition for trail development?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	No Opinion	Agree	Strongly Agree
10. Do you believe that trails should be an important part of your community's infrastructure?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	No Opinion	Agree	Strongly Agree
11. Developing trails that serve high-density populations should be a higher priority than developing trails that serve less dense populations.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
12. Multi-use natural surface trail designs could include off-road motorized vehicle use.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
13. Roadway improvements that incorporate bicycle/pedestrian facilities (e.g., sidewalks, bike lanes, trails, etc.) are important for trail expansion and providing modes of alternative transportation.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
14. There is adequate information available describing how to determine optimal construction materials and essential trail features.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
15. Standardized signs and symbols should be used throughout the State to designate trail activities.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
16. Trail developments and renovations must comply with the latest ADA accessibility standards.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
17. Interpretive signage along trails is important.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
18. There should be State tax incentives to individual citizens and public utilities for their participation in land acquisition for trails.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
19. There should be State legislation that supports the acquisition of former railroad corridors for the development of trails.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

20. Support for a trail project is often demonstrated by including the project in various local plans. Please indicate if any of the following planning documents include reference to your trail project(s):

☐ Trail/greenway plan ☐ Park and recreation master plan
☐ Transportation plan ☐ Economic development plan
☐ Land use plan ☐ Area comprehensive plan
☐ Historic/cultural plan ☐ Other type of plan_____

21. When planning and designing trails, do you try to connect community destinations such as schools, recreation facilities, commercial districts, and cultural and historic sites? (Check the SINGLE response that MOST applies)
    - ☐ YES
    - ☐ NO time to plan and design trails for connecting community destinations
    - ☐ NO funding (includes hiring outside consultant) to plan and design trails for connecting community destinations
    - ☐ NO interest in the community to connect community destinations
    - ☐ NO, community destinations are too spread out to consider
    - ☐ Not applicable

22. Is your community included in a regional trails plan that includes connections to other communities? (Check the SINGLE response that MOST applies)
    - ☐ YES
    - ☐ NO regional plan for trails/trail networks
    - ☐ NO funds for a regional trail
    - ☐ NO interest in regional trails
    - ☐ Do Not Know
    - ☐ Not applicable

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	No Opinion	Agree	Strongly Agree
23. There needs to be a coordinated effort between trail development and public transit services (e.g., buses and rail lines) to provide viable transportation alternatives.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
24. Current funding for trail development in Indiana is adequate.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
25. Adjoining landowners and businesses must be involved in planning for trail development and management.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
26. There is a need for more research to identify common problems and possible solutions to trail development, planning, and maintenance.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
27. In terms of need for your service population, trail development is less important than other facility development.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

28. During the design phase of your trails, what resources do you use to address user safety and crime prevention?   (Check all that apply)
    - ☐ Public information/literature
    - ☐ Rely upon consultants
    - ☐ Emergency response personnel/safety experts
    - ☐ Community input
    - ☐ Not applicable
    - ☐ Other_____

29. Do you use the services of engineers, landscape architects, and/or urban/regional planners when you develop a trail system?

    ☐ YES (please specify how)   ☐ NO (please specify why not)   ☐ Not applicable

        ☐ In-house expertise on staff   ☐ No funds

        ☐ Contract service   ☐ In future plans

        ☐ Other_____   ☐ Not deemed necessary

                                          ☐ Other_____

30. Does your organization use a specific set of guidelines for its **day-to-day** trail maintenance?

    ☐ YES

    ☐ NO

    ☐ In process of developing guidelines

    ☐ Not applicable

31. Do you have a **long term** plan for funding trail maintenance and management?

    ☐ YES   ☐ NO

    If YES, how long? _____years   ☐ Not applicable

    How is it funded? _____

    _____

    _____

32. Are health and wellness professionals (physicians, nurses, etc.) closely involved in the planning of your trails? (Check the SINGLE response that MOST applies)

    ☐ YES

    ☐ NO, health and wellness professionals in community are not interested

    ☐ NO time to involve them

    ☐ NO, had not previously considered

    ☐ NO, do not consider it necessary

    ☐ NO, do not know how to involve them

    ☐ Not applicable

    ☐ Other (specify)_____

33. Effective planning and management of trails requires demographic information (i.e., age, sex, ethnicity, marital status, etc.) about current and future trail users. If you collect this type of information, then what method(s) do you use? (Check all that apply)

    ☐ The most current U.S. census information

    ☐ Demographic information from current park and recreation master plan

    ☐ We collect our own demographic information

    ☐ Economic development information

    ☐ Area comprehensive information

    ☐ Land use information

    ☐ Other (specify)_____

    ☐ Do not use demographic information

    ☐ Not applicable

34. Do you use multilingual signage on your trails?

    ☐ YES

    ☐ In future plans

    ☐ Do not intend to install

    ☐ Not applicable

35. Do you publish trail maps including printable web based maps? (Check the SINGLE response that MOST applies)
    - ☐ YES
    - ☐ Not necessary due to small size of trail
    - ☐ No funds available
    - ☐ In future plans
    - ☐ Not applicable

36. Are you using Universal Trail Assessment Program (UTAP) to evaluate trail difficulty and accessibility? (Check the SINGLE response that MOST applies)
    - ☐ YES
    - ☐ No time to implement
    - ☐ Do not consider it necessary
    - ☐ No funds available
    - ☐ Not aware of UTAP assessment program
    - ☐ In future plans
    - ☐ Not applicable

37. Do you use volunteers for any of the following activities?   (Check all that apply)
    - ☐ Trail design
    - ☐ Trail construction projects
    - ☐ Trail maintenance
    - ☐ Trail safety and security
    - ☐ Do not use volunteers
    - ☐ Not applicable
    - ☐ Other (specify)_____

38. Do you install restrooms and water fountains as you develop trails?   (Check the SINGLE response that MOST applies)
    - ☐ YES
    - ☐ NO funds available to install
    - ☐ NO time available to maintain
    - ☐ NO funds available to maintain
    - ☐ NO, not necessary due to public restrooms/water fountains being available near by
    - ☐ NO, do not see need
    - ☐ Not applicable

39. What media do you use to promote your trail system? (Check all that apply)
    - ☐ Website
    - ☐ Informational booklet/brochure
    - ☐ Radio/Television
    - ☐ Presentations at schools, Rotary, scouts, etc.
    - ☐ Special events (fairs, festivals, etc)
    - ☐ Newspaper/magazines
    - ☐ None
    - ☐ Not applicable
    - ☐ Other (specify)_____

40. Do you provide information on the benefits of trail use? (Check all that apply)
  ☐ Do not provide trail benefit information
  ☐ Flyers/brochures/newsletters
  ☐ Website
  ☐ Presentations at schools, Rotary, scouts, etc.
  ☐ Newspapers/magazines/professional journals
  ☐ Other (specify) _____
  ☐ Not applicable

41. How do you promote responsible trail use and ethics? (Check all that apply)
  ☐ Flyers /brochures/newsletters
  ☐ Website
  ☐ Presentations at schools, Rotary, scouts, etc.
  ☐ Newspapers/magazines/professional journals
  ☐ Trail maps
  ☐ Trail signage
  ☐ Other (specify) _____
  ☐ Do not provide trail use/ethics information
  ☐ Not applicable

42. Does your organization coordinate with other agencies and organizations for trail system development and management ? (Check all that apply)
  ☐ State government   ☐ Non-government organizations
  ☐ City   ☐ Other _____
  ☐ County   ☐ NO, do not coordinate with other agencies
  ☐ Township   ☐ Not applicable
  ☐ Federal government

43. Do you feel legislative action will assist in the further development of multi-use trail networks?
  ☐ Definitely will not help
  ☐ Probably will not help
  ☐ No opinion
  ☐ Probably will help
  ☐ Definitely will help

44. Does your community have ordinances and regulations that facilitate trail development?
  ☐ YES - what type? (Check all that apply)   ☐ NO
    ☐ Trail/park impact fees   ☐ Not applicable
    ☐ Land use zoning
    ☐ Land development set asides (trails and parks)
    ☐ Other (specify)_____

Thank you for participating in the Department of Natural Resources,
Division of Outdoor Recreation's Trails Survey for the 2005-2009 Trails Plan.
We would like to have any additional comments you may have.
Please use the back of this survey for additional comments.

Comments: _____

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